



ANNUAL REPORT

2018

Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services • 1100 Bank Street • Richmond, VA 23219
804-840-5520
www.vlepsc.org

Program Information

OVERVIEW

The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) was established in 1993, and tasked with creating an accreditation opportunity specific to Virginia law enforcement. Since that time, the Commission has overseen the development of a comprehensive, efficient, and viable process that can assist Virginia's law enforcement community in the development and certification of policies and procedures. The Executive Board of the VLEPSC consists of representatives selected by the Virginia Sheriffs' Association (VSA) and the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police (VACP). The partnership developed by the VACP, VSA and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is unique among state level accreditation programs in the country. Virginia is the only state accreditation program that can boast of this format for the sharing of leadership. The Virginia process is voluntary, attainable and relatively cost free. The Commission first accepted applications for accredited status on January 1, 1996, and completed 2018 with approximately 124 agencies involved in some phase of the program.

MISSION

The mission of the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission is to advance law enforcement professionalism through the establishment of professional standards and the administration of a formal mechanism by which Virginia agencies can be systematically measured, evaluated, and updated. The Commission goals include:

1. To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the delivery of services;
2. To promote cooperation and coordination among all components in the criminal justice system;
3. To ensure the appropriate level of training for law enforcement personnel;
4. To promote public confidence in law enforcement; and
5. To promote the professionalism of law enforcement agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Commission

The Commission is comprised of six (6) active Chiefs of Police chosen by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police and six (6) active Sheriffs chosen by the Virginia Sheriffs' Association. Commissioners serve terms as designated by their respective Associations.

The current members of the Commission (and the year they were appointed) are as follows:

Sheriff Gabe Morgan (2009)
Chairman
City of Newport News Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Steve Draper (2013)
Treasurer
City of Martinsville Sheriff's Office

Sheriff C.O. Balderson (2011)
Westmoreland County sheriff's Office

Sheriff J. Joseph (Joe) McLaughlin Jr. (2016)
New Kent County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid (2017)
Fairfax County Sheriff's Office

Chief Keith Hartman (2018)
Buena Vista Police Department

Chief Steve Pike (2014)
Vice Chairman
Division of Capitol Police

Chief Gary Roche (2007)
Town of Pulaski Police Department

Sheriff Darrell Warren Jr (2015)
Gloucester County Sheriff's Office

Chief Bradley J. Rinehimer (2017)
James City County Police Department

Chief Ron Lantz (2017)
Albemarle County Police Department

Chief Ricky W. Arnold (2018)
Wytheville Police Department



Accreditation Partners

Although the Commission operates as an independent body, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) provides oversight and staffs the project. DCJS remains committed to the state accreditation program and continues to provide the financial backing for day-to-day services.

The VLEPSC program is dependent on the voluntary participation of individual law enforcement personnel. The assessment of agencies seeking accredited status is conducted by three-member teams composed of Virginia law enforcement personnel that are selected from the Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition (VALEAC). The program could not be successful without participating agency Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs allowing agency personnel to travel to applicant agencies in order to conduct assessments. The use of voluntary assessors allows the Virginia process to keep costs to minimal levels.

VALEAC continues to be an asset to VLEPSC and has been instrumental in contributing to the success of this program. Its members and leaders conduct quarterly meetings and training for new accreditation managers and assessors.



Accreditation Activities

NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

King and Queen County Sheriff's Office

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

King William County Sheriff's Office

Rocky Mount Police Department

NEWLY ACCREDITED AGENCIES

Fauquier County Sheriff's Office

University of Mary Washington Police Department

Town of Woodstock Police Department

Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority Police Department

Buena Vista Police Department

REACCREDITED AGENCIES

Second Awards

Patrick County Sheriff's Office

Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office

Prince Edward County Sheriff's Office

Franklin County Sheriff's Office

Prince George County Police Department

Third Awards

Roanoke County Sheriff's Office

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Division of Capitol Police

Fourth Awards

City of Lynchburg Sheriff's Office

City of Danville Sheriff's Office

Spotsylvania County Sheriff's Office

Town of Pulaski Police Department

Leesburg Police Department

City of Radford Sheriff's Office

Westmoreland County Sheriff Office

Shenandoah County Sheriff's Office

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Brunswick County Sheriff's Office

Fifth Awards

Town of Vinton Police Department

Albemarle County Sheriff's Office

Town of Wytheville Police Department

Wise County Sheriff's Office

Accreditation Milestones

In August 2018, The Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission was proud to announce that there were 100 Law Enforcement Agencies in the Commonwealth of Virginia currently accredited through the VLEPSC program. This was accomplished when the University of Mary Washington Police Department received the agency's Initial Accreditation.



Initiatives

DIRECTIVES

The Commission issued the following directives:

NONE

VLEPSC RATE CHANGE

In 2018 the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission revised the fees associated with accreditation. There was no change to the initial application fee of \$250.00. Previously, accredited agencies paid \$250.00 during the reaccreditation period. This was amended to \$100.00 annually.

VLEPSC PROCESS AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

In 2018 VLEPSC updated the process and procedures manual. The updated manual became effective on May 9, 2018.

VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (VML) INSURANCE PROGRAMS

In February 2015, VLEPSC partnered with VML to assist in deferring the application cost for agencies that are accredited or start the self-assessment phase of accreditation. If the agency carries liability coverage through VML, the company will pay the initial accreditation application fees of \$250.00 to VLEPSC. This is being done to encourage agencies to join the accreditation process by reducing the budgetary cost of the program. This program has proven itself to be very helpful in recruiting small agencies with minimum budgetary funding. When an agency achieves accredited status, VML will pay the \$100.00 Annual VLEPSC Accreditation fee. VML Insurance provides VLEPSC Accredited agencies a five (5) % discount on liability coverage.

POWER DMS STANDARDS

In August 2012, VLEPSC partnered with PowerDMS™ to launch STANDARDS. This new subscription-based software allows agencies to provide current and potential members with a cutting-edge document management solution. For more information, visit www.powerdms.com.

The Commission assessed its first PowerDMS™ agency, the Manassas Park Police Department, in December 2014. The assessment was successful and many agencies have found the value of using this product for accreditation and policy management.

Recognitions

THE COMMISSIONER'S AWARD

Each year the Commission recognizes one of their many dedicated and professional volunteers who give their time and themselves to staffing the many VLEPSC assessments. They serve as assessors and team leaders to ensure the important business of state accreditation is accomplished. The recipient, nominated by Program Manager Mays with concurrence of the Commission, follows many previous recipients of this honor that has been awarded annually since 2002.

At the October 2018 Annual Conference of the Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition (VALEAC), Commission Chairman Gabe Morgan announced that Master Assessor, Lieutenant Tim Brown, Town of Christiansburg Police Department, was the recipient of the 2018 Commissioner's Award.

Lieutenant Brown has been with the Christiansburg Police Department since December 1999. He is currently serving as the agency's Accreditation Manager and Special Operations Supervisor. He has served on many assessments and mocks as well as serving as team Leader. He is a Senior Assessor for the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. He also serves as Chairperson for the Certified Accreditation Professional Committee. The Christiansburg Police Department was initially accredited in June 2000 and most recently reaccredited in 2016. Christiansburg is also a Certified Crime Prevention Community.



Lieutenant Tim Brown the 2018 Commissioner's Award Recipient

ASSESSOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In 2005, VLEPSC and VALEAC created the Assessor Career Development Program. Each level of the program requires that certain criteria be met. The following assessors met those requirements in 2018.

Senior Assessor

Chief Deputy Travis Sumption, Clarke County Sheriff's Office

Ms. Erin Crean, City of Virginia Beach Sheriff's Office

Master Assessor

Captain Aleck Beeman, Frederick County Sheriff's Office

VALEAC Certified Accreditation Professional Program (CAP)

In 2015, VALEAC developed a program to certify assessors as professionals. The Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition promotes the concept of voluntary certification for all accreditation professionals in the criminal justice field. This certification focuses exclusively on the individual and is an indication of the current proficiency in a particular criminal justice field. Accreditation professionals who become Certified Accreditation Professionals will be distinguished as individuals who have reached one of the highest levels of achievement and recognition in their field. During the 2018 annual conference two (2) assessors were presented with the Certified Accreditation Professional Program Award.

Corporal Cathy Clark, City of Danville Sheriff's Office

Retired Chief Dave Daigneault, James City County Police Department

Contact Information

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Submitted by:
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